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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 21 | Humidity 85% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 82,330 | Nifty 25,019 | Gold 92,329 | Silver 95,222 | Dollar 85.61 | Euro 95.27 | GBP 113.50

City currently has almost 3.31 lakh electric vehicles; experts say if charging infra is boosted and battery swap model is encouraged we can get on to the e-bandwagon more enthusiastically

CHARGING IN PROGRESS

34,000 EVs registered across various RTOs in this year

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The number of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in Bengaluru is rising. According to the digitised vehicle records of the Vahan national registry, the city currently has nearly 3.31 lakh EVs, out of which a little over 34,000 electric vehicles were registered between January and now this year across various RTOs.

Most registrations, 8,422 EVs, were registered in Bengaluru South, followed by Bengaluru Central (4,173 EVs) and Bengaluru North (4,096).

City-based mobility experts say that while the rate of adoption is increasing, it is still below the desired and expected. While charging infrastructure still remains

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

CHOW TIME

After initial success of dog feeding initiative, BBMP plans to enlist third-party vendors to cook meals for more than 5,000 stray animals daily

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ENO
ENO On,
Acidity Gone
GETS TO WORK IN 6 SECONDS
FAST RELIEF FROM ACIDITY
ENO
Fruit Salt
GETS TO WORK IN 6 SECONDS
ORANGE FLAVOUR
LEMON FLAVOUR
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SCAN TO SEE VICKY'S MAGIC
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THINGS TO DO

01 Barre & Breakfast

Join Physique 57 for a high-energy, full-body workout at Bastian Garden City — no props, just movement, strength, and a post-sweat wholesome breakfast. **Where: Bastian Garden City When: May 24, 8.30 am**

02 Flavours reimagined

Savour India's beloved street delicacies reimagined with finesse at The Market, under the artistry of Chaat Master Maheshwar Rai — where every bite is a celebration of flavour, nostalgia, and innovation. **Where: The Market, The Ritz-Carlton; When: May 10 to June 10, lunch and dinner**

03 Kids carnival

Enjoy summer fun with Cartoon Network and Discovery Kids characters, interactive activities, and entertainment for kids at multiple Orion Malls. **Where: Orion Mall; When: till May 18, all day**

04 Theatre night

Enjoy a Marathi comedy play featuring Prashant Damle and Hrishikesh Shelar, promising laughter and fun in Bengaluru. **Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval; When: May 30, 6.30 pm**

05 Morning groove

Groove into Sunday morning with Derek & The Cats at Cubbon Park's Bandstand — a funky blend of pop, jazz, and improvisation as part of the Revival Series. **Where: Bandstand, Cubbon Park; When: May 18, 8.00 am – 9.00 am**

06 Live drama

Catch Girish Karnad's acclaimed play live on stage, directed by V Balakrishnan, at Ranga Shankara. **Where: Ranga Shankara; When: 21–22 May, 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm**

No increase in medical and dental course fees

The Karnataka government has announced that there will be no increase in the fee structure for medical and dental courses in the upcoming academic year, despite requests from private medical colleges. Karnataka Minister for Medical Education, Sharan Prakash Patil, clarified this during a meeting with representatives of private medical and dental college managements. Private colleges had sought a 10 to 15 percent fee hike, but the minister stated that a 10 percent increase was already approved last year, and no further hike will be allowed this year.

Emphasising that last year's increase was sufficient, Patil confirmed that an agreement formalising this decision will be signed soon. **— BMB**

Queer rights advocates unite in Bengaluru

Members of the Karnataka State Gender and Sexuality Minorities Coalition for Convergence take part in a protest rally titled 'Our Rights – Rightful Protest' against social discrimination on the occasion of the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia in Bengaluru on Saturday

BBMP to expand stray dog feeding program

With ₹2 crore funding, BBMP will provide nutritious meals daily to over 5,000 stray animals, shifting from hotel tie-ups to vendor-based cooking

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Animal Husbandry Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) plans to enhance its stray dog feeding program following initial success.

The department is considering hiring third-party vendors to prepare meals for over 5,000 stray animals daily across all eight zones.

Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner of BBMP's Health and Animal Husbandry Department, said an action plan has been submitted to the Commissioner for approval.

"We have sent the action plan to the Commissioner. Once approved, we will float tenders within a month. Vendors will cook meals for more than 5,000 animals daily, with the meal plan designed by our veterinarians," Kishore explained.

BBMP launched its stray dog feeding initiative on October 17 last year as part of the 'Bite-free Locality' campaign. On day one, nearly 150 street dogs were fed at ten locations across the city. The program quickly gained momentum, with over 100 hotels and restaurants partnering with BBMP to feed stray dogs. It later expanded to 28 constituencies and 135 feeding spots from the initial ten.

Stray dogs across all eight zones are now receiving nutritious meals as part of BBMP's feeding program

Under the campaign, stray dogs in all eight zones have been provided with nutritious meals. Food from partner hotels is collected by BBMP marshals, who hand it over to pourakarmikas (PKs) responsible for feeding the animals. Signboards at feeding sites indicate the locations of food and water bowls and delivery points.

"The earlier model involving hotels and restaurants was ideal to start with, aiming to encourage community ownership of stray dogs. However, we now see the need to take the program forward with dedicated investment," Kishore added.

The expanded initiative is estimated to cost around Rs 2 crore.

Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, the NGO assisting BBMP, noted that while sourcing food from restaurants was a good idea, challenges arose during food handover in some areas. The partnership model will continue where feeders wish to collaborate with local restaurants. However, centrally cooked food by BBMP will allow for better supervision and accessibility.

> **"The initial response was encouraging. With this next phase, we aim to bring consistency and scale to the feeding initiative**
>
> – Suralkar Vikas Kishore, Special Commissioner, BBMP

In the new framework, PKs will handle food distribution directly, streamlining the previous system that required marshals to collect, distribute, and track the food.

"Long-term, BBMP cooking food will support feeders in vulnerable areas. There have been frequent cases of feeder harassment, and many people wrongly believe they can call BBMP to remove dogs from their vicinity. By managing the feeding program properly, BBMP is setting the right precedent. It's important to sustain and improve this initiative annually," said Hegde.

Police accused of trying to put lost label on snatched phone

Internal inquiry ordered after family alleges police reluctant to register FIR when senior citizen was robbed of her phone during morning walk

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite a steady drop in theft cases on record in the first three months, a recent incident reveals a disturbing loophole in how such cases are handled—especially when it comes to vulnerable victims like senior citizens. A 67-year-old woman was attacked and robbed during her routine morning walk near Wheeler Road Extension on May 5, but her family claims the Pulakeshinagar police failed to register an FIR, opting instead to record it as a lost phone case. Police officials told BM that an internal inquiry has been initiated to review the handling of the complaint.

The incident occurred at around 6.19 am when two men on a scooter snatched the women's sling bag. The bag contained some cash, a mobile phone, and her house keys. The shaken woman, aided by a good Samaritan, informed her daughter immediately. CCTV footage from a nearby shop captured the incident, clearly showing the vehicle and its number plate.

The family says they approached the Pulakeshinagar Police Station by 9 am, but officers delayed registering a formal complaint. Initially, a written application was taken, and patrol officers were dispatched to inspect the site and review the CCTV footage. Even after confirming the theft and taking the IMEI number of the stolen phone, officers insisted the complainant return at 11 am when the sub-inspector would be available.

Upon return, the complainant was made to rewrite the application twice. She alleges that the sub-inspector discouraged filing an FIR by stating that it would require her elderly mother to appear in court and at the police station, an exhausting and distressing process for a senior citizen.

> **"We will inquire about this, but we always have accepted all the complaints despite its severity such as petty or hefty cases**

"It was no longer treated as a theft but logged as a 'lost item' complaint, almost as if mom misplaced the phone," the complainant stated in a social media post, further adding, " I am not worried about lost items as I am bothered by the fact that my mother was attacked while doing something that is meant to keep her healthier. She could have fallen or worse. My mother could have been seriously injured. Instead of treating it as an attack, they diluted the seriousness."

Though the police assured her that patrolling would be increased in the area and that the crime branch would re-examine the CCTV footage, "I see no evidence of said increased patrolling," the complaint said. By the time the lost report was finally filed, nearly six hours had passed—long enough for the thieves to discard the phone or change SIM cards. "The only hope was for a feeling of safety but even that seems elusive," the complaint states.

Probe and unease

An inspector from the Pulakeshinagar police explained that this lapse would be probed. "We will inquire about this, but we always have accepted all the complaints despite its severity such as petty or hefty cases."

The complainant, who had posted this incident in social media received several responses. " A similar thing happened (about not filing an FIR), when sis's car was broken into. They convince you to register the possessions as lost instead of stolen so the official crime number stays down," said one user.

Another user, Bushan Joseph, had some advice. "The next time something like this happens, I think an SOS should be posted in this group and everyone who is free, willing and able to, should go to the police station to provide moral support to the victim and ensure that the FIR is registered. There is always strength in numbers."

DCP East D Devaraja clarified that earlier more such incidents would occur, but now, with stricter laws and enforcement, any such cases are taken seriously. "If such incidents are reported, the police officials concerned will be held accountable based on the inquiry. Since CCTV cameras are now equipped with audio recording, no officer can deny or neglect a complaint," he said.

To ensure there was no misconduct, the DCP instructed the ACP to conduct an inquiry into the matter. Following the investigation, the ACP reported that the sub-inspector had explained the legal procedure to the complainant, after which the complainant voluntarily withdrew the complaint.

Man killed after car rams into bike over cigarette row

A late-night argument at a tea stall near Konanakunte Cross turned violent when a man allegedly rammed his car into a bike with the intention of killing the riders. The incident occurred around 4 am on May 10.

According to the police complaint, the complainant and his friend Sanjay had stopped for tea after work at a roadside stall when a man in a car approached them and demanded cigarettes. The complainant refused, stating they were there just for tea, which led to a verbal altercation. Sanjay intervened and asked the man not to shout at them.

Witnesses tried to calm the situation, and a woman in the car pulled the man away. However, before leaving, he allegedly threatened the duo saying, "You stupid children, I won't leave you alone."

As the complainant and Sanjay prepared to leave on their bike, the accused allegedly started his car and intentionally rammed into them.

The complainant fell onto the car's bonnet and suffered minor injuries, while Sanjay was flung towards a nearby medical store, hitting his head on the pavement and losing consciousness. **BMB**

B.TECH. PROGRAMMES - MAJORS
(Admission based on VITEEE Rank)
- Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)
- CSE (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)
- CSE (Blockchain)
- CSE (Cyber Security)
- CSE (Data Analytics)
- CSE (Software Engineering)
- CSE and Business Systems (in collaboration with TCS)
- Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)
- ECE (Embedded Systems)
- ECE (VLSI)
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering (Automotive Design)
- Mechanical Engineering (Robotics)

17 Minors / Double Major options (within 4 Years)

Eligibility Criteria : Admission based on VITEEE Rank and should have secured a minimum aggregate of 60% in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics in the qualifying examination (+2/Intermediate)

5-YEAR INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES
- M.Tech. Software Engineering
- M.Tech. CSE (In collaboration with Virtusa)

Eligibility Criteria : Should have secured a minimum aggregate of 65% in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics in the qualifying examination (+2/Intermediate)

NON ENGINEERING PROGRAMMES
- B.B.A. - 3 Yrs or B.B.A. (Hons.) - 4 Yrs
- B.Com. (Finance) - 3 Yrs or B.Com. (Finance) (Hons.) - 4 Yrs
- B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) - 5 Yrs
- B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) - 5 Yrs
- B.Sc. - M.Sc. Data Science (Dual Degree)
- B.A. - M.A. (Dual Degree)

Eligibility Criteria for Non Engg Programmes: Admission based on Personal Interview and 55% in +2/Intermediate

For Law Programme : Admission based on Personal Interview and 45% in +2/Intermediate

PG PROGRAMMES
- M.Tech. (VLSI Design)
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- M.Sc. Chemistry
- M.Sc. Physics (Energy Science and Technology)

Eligibility Criteria : Admission based on VITMEE Rank and the Undergraduates should have secured a minimum aggregate of 60% for applying PG programme

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- 561+ Patents Published
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- 583 Super Dream* & Dream** Offers Still counting Data for 2025 Graduating Batch *CTC above 10 Lakhs **CTC above 6 Lakhs

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Cooke Town residents await green light for park revival

BBMP delay stalls park development in Cooke Town; residents urge approval for builder's CSR-backed initiative to restore vital green spaces

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Public park development suffers from official delays

The residents of Cooke Town have been running pillar to post for more than a year seeking development of two parks in the locality. They have been visiting the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) authorities, elected representatives and builders seeking assistance to develop two parks – a children's park on High Street and a general park on Milton Street.

The Cooke Town Residents' Association has a parks' committee led by a few dedicated members. "Due to the initiative of a senior member, we were fortunate to receive confirmation from the Prestige Group under their CSR scheme to develop and maintain the general park on Milton Street and the children's park on High Street for a period of 5 years. This private partnership with the Prestige Group will add immense value to the Cooke Town community by way of providing a safe, effective & green space for both children and other members of Cooke Town to enjoy," said Albert R, Founder Member of Cooke Town Residents' Association.

However, the residents of Cooke Town are not happy with the apathy of the authorities concerned to allow the Prestige Group develop the two parks. "We have been following up with the BBMP authorities and horticulture department authorities for nearly a year to get the necessary approval to hand over the parks to Prestige Group for redevelopment, but in vain so far. We obtained a letter of approval from our local MLA office to hand over the parks to Prestige Group to take up the development works. However, the final approval from the authorities concerned remains pending thus depriving the community of a valuable green space and a safe play area in Cooke Town. We look forward to early sanction and approval for the Prestige Group to develop the parks," he said.

Expressing concern over the inordinate delay in giving consent by the BBMP authorities, Prasuna Banerjee, Park Committee Member, has said the children's park has no security guards thus making it easy for anti-social elements and drunkards to misuse it. "The condition of the children's park is pathetic. Some of the play equipment is broken or damaged. We want the authorities concerned to give consent to develop the parks," said Prasuna Banerjee.

> **"This partnership with Prestige Group under their CSR scheme will bring immense value to our community. We just need BBMP's final approval to begin**
>
> – Prasuna Banerjee, Parks Committee Member

Demanding the authorities to develop the children's park, Lorna Albert, a resident of Jayabharath Nagar, has said that he takes her grandson to the children's park on High Street. "My heart is in my mouth when I take my grandson to the park because the ground is uneven and it is full of rocks and boulders. It is not a park safe for children," said Lorna Albert.

Meanwhile, BBMP Superintendent (Horticulture) has said that he has already sent the proposal to higher authorities for approval to develop the two parks the CSR initiative at Cooke Town.

Bengaluru–Tumakuru Metro clears feasibility stage

Feasibility study completes for 56.6 km metro line with 25 stations; state approval awaited amid criticism over cost and intent

The long-awaited metro rail project connecting Bengaluru and Tumakuru has seen a headway. The feasibility study for the 56.6 km metro corridor has been completed and submitted by a private agency to the BMRCL, which in turn has forwarded the report to the state government.

The proposed metro line will feature 25 elevated stations along the route. Sources reveal that the corridor will begin at the Madavara station on the existing Green Line near the Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) and extend up to Shira Gate.

Metro route details

The Bengaluru-Tumakuru metro will pass through key locations including Madavara, Makali, Dasanapura, Nelamangala, Weaver Colony, Nelamangala Vishwaeshwarapura, Nelamangala Tollgate, Budihal, T Begur, Tippagondanahalli, Kulavanhalli, Mahimapura, Billanakote, Sompura Industrial Area, Dabaspet, Nallayanpalya, Chikkahalli, Hirehalli Industrial Area, Panditanahalli, Kyatsandra Bypass, Kyatsandra, SIT, Tumakuru Bus Station, TUDA Layout, and Nagannapalya, before terminating at Shira Gate. This route is expected to greatly benefit the numerous commuters who travel along the busy Tumakuru Road corridor daily.

> **"A suburban rail line to Tumakuru costs around ₹100–150 crore per kilometre, while a metro line costs nearly ₹350 crore per kilometre**
>
> – PC Mohan, Bengaluru Central MP

The BMRCL submitted the feasibility report to the state government, which is anticipated to grant the green signal soon. Following state approval, the project will require final clearance from the central government before construction can commence.

"A suburban rail line to Tumakuru costs around ₹100–150 crore per kilometre, while a metro line costs nearly ₹350 crore per kilometre," said Bengaluru Central MP PC Mohan, criticising the proposal. "This isn't about improving connectivity—it's about inflating real estate values by ₹1,000 crore. The State Government seems more interested in real estate windfalls than in genuine public transport solutions. Instead of building what's truly needed, they risk derailing the suburban rail project altogether

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Garbage gripe

Jayanagar

Despite the construction of new footpaths a year ago on Jayanagar 5th Main Road, the unbearable stench from nearby garbage continues to persist.

Pothole plague

Gandhinagar

Gandhinagar's 6th Cross Road, near the Majestic area, is riddled with potholes, disrupting smooth traffic flow and endangering pedestrians.

Road neglect

Kanaka Nagar

The road at V Nagenahalli, Kanaka Nagar Main Road, remains in a state of neglect, with deteriorating conditions that demand urgent attention.

‘No partiality, only justice’

Spike in street violence & murder cases in Bengaluru sparked safety concerns during #AskCPBlr session; police assure tighter security measures across city

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A surge in street violence has left Bengaluru residents fearful, with many expressing concerns over their safety during the #AskCPBlr session held on Saturday, on YouTube. The recent attack involving a known rowdy-sheeter has intensified public anxiety, with the public stating they are afraid to venture out after dark.

Manjunath alias Manju, a rowdy-sheeter from Madanayakanahalli, along with his associate Shreyas, allegedly assaulted a group of youths near Sriranga Bar. The duo arrived at the spot on an Activa scooter and, without provocation, began threatening a few young men with a dagger. The situation quickly escalated when the accused physically attacked them.

A case has been registered under the Madanayakanahalli police station limits, and authorities have launched a search operation to apprehend the accused. Police officials have assured the public that efforts are underway to increase patrolling and curb the activities of such anti-social elements.

This incident, along with several others reported, has raised concerns about public safety and the unchecked movement of criminal elements in the city. However, according to police data, a total of 426 murder cases have been reported across the state so far. In Bengaluru alone, 65 murder cases were registered between January 1 and April 30 this year. Additionally, when comparing the number of hurt cases between 2023 and 2024, there has been a 6% increase.

Meanwhile, during the third week of every month, the police officials hold online discussions across three different digital platforms to ensure transparency and strengthen public trust. On a saturday’s session of May month, a user asked, “What is your opinion on the recent growing murder cases, and how can we, as citizens, trust the police to ensure safety?”

Responding to the query, the City Police Commissioner B Dayananda stated, “We act strictly based on the needs and requests of the public. We do not bend the rules or take action under any external pressure. The Bengaluru police follow a firm policy where no external pressure is entertained, and there is no special treatment for the rich and powerful. The belief that only influential people get justice at police stations is completely false. We are always ready to deliver justice and help anyone in need,” said the Commissioner.

Discussions also focused on tackling traffic-related concerns such as one-way violations, congestion, and footpath encroachments by street vendors. Other issues raised included cybercrime, theft, noise pollution at night, and public smoking.

The City Police Commissioner urged the public to dial 112 in case of emergencies and shared insights on how to report traffic violations through the ‘Astram’ app, along with precautionary measures to be followed in public spaces. Police officials also assured that all queries, concerns, and suggestions raised during the session have been duly noted for further action. “Our commitment to building trust and ensuring safety remains strong and will continue going forward,” they added.

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Grok didn’t really mean it

Cops off to record Sonu Nigam’s statement

A Bengaluru police team will travel to Mumbai to record the statement of singer Sonu Nigam in connection with an FIR filed against him for allegedly linking the demand for a Kannada song to the Pahalgam terror attack, police said on Saturday.

The team, comprising an Inspector from the Avalahalli Police Station and two other officers, will leave for Mumbai to question Sonu Nigam. His statement will be recorded, and the entire process will be video recorded. Senior officers have issued specific instructions to the team. The court instructed that the police could either question him via video call or travel to his location to conduct the inquiry. The police had previously sent a notice asking Sonu Nigam to appear before them. However, the singer filed a petition in the Karnataka High Court seeking to quash the FIR registered against him.

The Karnataka High Court on May 15 granted relief to singer Sonu Nigam. **–IANS**

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21/06/2025 (ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ)

ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ: ಕ್ರಸಂ. 1–2ರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ:
ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ: ರೂ.300/– +ರೂ.54/– (ಜಿಎಸ್‌ಟಿ) = **ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ.354/–**
ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ: ರೂ.150/–
+ ರೂ.27/– (ಜಿಎಸ್‌ಟಿ) = **ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ.177/–**
ಕ್ರಸಂ.3ರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ:
ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ: ರೂ.150/– + ರೂ.27/– (ಜಿಎಸ್‌ಟಿ) = **ಒಟ್ಟು: ರೂ.177/–**
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+ ರೂ.14/– (ಜಿಎಸ್‌ಟಿ) = **ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ.89/–**

ತಾವು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು 'ಶ್ರೀನಿಧಿ ಸೌಹಾರ್ದ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿಯಮಿತ' (Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha) ಈ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂದಾಯವಾಗುವಂತೆ ಡಿ.ಡಿ (ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ಡ್ರಾಫ್ಟ್) ತೆಗೆದು, ಮುದ್ರಿತ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಜೊತೆ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವುದು.

ಗಮನಿಸಿ: ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣವನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಆದೇಶದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ
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(ಜಿ. ಪ್ರವೀಣ್ ಕುಮಾರ್), ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

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Law student raises red flag over Kali Reserve safari

Student invokes Wildlife Act, demands MoEF probe into unapproved tourism in Castlerock range

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The issue of the alleged illegal safari inside the Kali Tiger Reserve in Karnataka has refused to die down.

Now, a law student from Koppal has raised concerns over tourism activities allegedly being carried out by the administration of the Kali Project Tiger Reserve at the Castlerock Wildlife Range.

The student has issued a 60-day notice to the forest administration under Section 55 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, indicating an intention to file a complaint in court over alleged violations of the law. "My intention in sending the notice is to approach the court for violations of various sections of the Wildlife (Protection) Act. I have attached documents as evidence to support my claim. These show illegal wildlife safari activities conducted by the administration in the Castlerock area," the student said.

According to the letter accompanying the notice, the alleged safari, promoted under the name "Jungle Ride," included visits to the Canopy Walk, Papulwadi Falls, and the Grassland Viewpoint covering a 50-kilometre stretch in about two to three hours.

Wildlife experts point out that guidelines issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) strictly prohibit the opening of new areas for tourism unless they are part of a designated tourism zone or listed in the approved Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP) of the reserve.

The student underlined that the Castlerock range is not listed as a tourism zone in the approved TCP of the Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve (2014–2024). The notice highlights that the Castlerock Wildlife Range was notified as part of the Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary in November 2011 and is under the administrative control of the Kali Project Tiger Reserve. All activities in the sanctuary are supposed to be guided by the ecotourism chapter of the TCP.

"While forest officials are responsible for preventing illegal entry into the sanctuary, the Kali Tiger Reserve administration has instead promoted the safari by putting up signage, advertisements, conducting social media promotions, and deploying staff and vehicles," the student alleged.

The complaint further claims that these activities violate Sections 3A and 3B of the Forest Conservation Act and demands a high-level enquiry by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), including a site inspection. It also calls for disciplinary action against forest officials involved.

Officials from the Kali Tiger Reserve administration confirmed receiving the notice but declined to comment on the matter.

Complaint claims staff deployed to conduct illegal safaris in sensitive tiger habitat

A law student has issued a 60-day notice to the Kali Tiger Reserve administration, alleging illegal safari activities in the Castlerock Wildlife Range, citing violations of the Wildlife (Protection) Act as the "Jungle Ride" is not part of the approved Tiger Conservation Plan

Kempegowda airport posts first profit

The Kempegowda International Airport has registered a record profit for the first time since its inception, a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said on Saturday.

Opened in May 2008 to ease congestion at Bengaluru's HAL Airport, the Kempegowda International Airport has now reported a financial turnaround, marking a significant milestone in its operational journey. The record profit was announced following a board meeting of the Bangalore International Airport Authority, chaired by Shalini Rajneesh, Chief Secretary to the Karnataka government and Chairperson of BIAL.

Officials attributed the airport's strong performance to strategic expansion, sustainability measures, and improved operational efficiency. **–IANS**

Trains from city to M'luru halted

Some daytime train services between Mangaluru and Bengaluru will be suspended for 154 days starting June 1, due to railway electrification work in the Sakleshpur–Subrahmanya Road section, the South Western Railway said on Saturday.

The affected trains include the Yeshvantpur–Mangaluru Gomateshwara Express (Saturdays) from May 31 to November 1, and the Mangaluru–Yeshvantpur Weekly Express (Sundays) from June 1 to November 2. The Yeshvantpur–Mangaluru Tri-weekly Express (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays) will be cancelled from June 1 to August 30, while its return service (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays) is cancelled from June 2 to August 31. Other cancellations include the Yeshvantpur–Karwar and Karwar–Yeshvantpur Tri-weekly Expresses until October 31 and November 1 respectively. Passenger associations have raised concerns over the lack of public consultation and alternative arrangements, urging railway authorities to minimise inconvenience during the upgrade. **–PTI**

Getting there, 1 EV at a time

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the biggest roadblock, other aspects of the EV ecosystem also need to be strengthened, they say.

The initial cost of purchasing electric vehicles is still high, apart from other services lacking in the EV market, such as battery swapping.

"The battery swapping model can reduce the initial cost of purchasing electric vehicles, leading to a better rate of adoption. In this case, the user can rent a battery as and when the need arises. Similarly, range anxiety and the technical superiority of electric vehicles when compared with conventional vehicles still have a question mark. Buyers are still unsure if they are getting a superior product for a much higher cost than they are paying to buy EVs. When clubbed with safety concerns and lack of charging infrastructure, it is not surprising that the adoption rate is lower than expected," said Professor Ashish Verma, Convenor of Sustainable Transportation (IST) Lab, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

In November last year, a study conducted by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) had analysed that to meet its electric vehicles' demands, Bengaluru would require more than 36,000 public charging guns, 400 charging stations, and 141 acres of land by 2030.

The study had predicted that by 2030, Bengaluru would have more than 23 lakh EVs.

Battery challenges

Researchers also highlighted that although an increasing number of Bengalureans are adopting EVs, challenges related to battery charging need to be overcome for a smoother transition.

To meet the charging needs of more than 23 lakh EVs, the city would require more than 36,000 public charger guns—25 times the guns in 2023. Further, the annual estimated energy demand from EV charging in 2030 would be 3.3–4.1 BU, accounting for 7%–9% of the city's annual energy demand. Moreover, the peak load due to EV charging is expected to reach 1.2 GW by 2030, as against 0.096 GW in 2023.

"The city needs to bring in these infrastructures in place if we desire to be in line with the country's EV target by 2030, which is 30% of the total vehicles. Although the rate of adoption is increasing, the number of EVs being registered is much lower when compared with the registration of conventional vehicles," noted another mobility expert.

CM pushes for GST lead

Karnataka currently holds the second position in the country in GST collection, and efforts must be made to secure the top spot, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Saturday.

Speaking at the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Karnataka Commercial Taxes Services Association in Bengaluru, he noted that 1.2 lakh crore is the tax collection target for this year, after exceeding last year's 1.03 lakh crore target by 17,000 crore.

Siddaramaiah, also the state's Finance Minister, said 90,000 crore has already been spent on guarantee schemes, out of a 4.09 lakh crore budget. He credited officials for their efforts and urged them to curb tax evasion, particularly in Bengaluru, while assuring support for legitimate staff demands. **–IANS**

SUNDAY READ

Pixel predators

Rural cybercrime doubles, exposing major gaps in digital awareness

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Once seen as an urban menace, cybercrime is now making deep inroads into Karnataka's rural heartland. Disturbing new data from the state government reveals that reported cases in rural areas have nearly doubled, from 880 in 2022 to a staggering 1,600 in 2024. The crime is largely targeting parents and senior citizens who remain unfamiliar with digital technology and its threats.

This rise is attributed to the rapid expansion of internet connectivity across the countryside, enabling both opportunity and exploitation. While digital access has unlocked economic and educational prospects for villagers, it has also exposed them to a new wave of online threats, scams, frauds, and digital blackmail, many of which they are unprepared to face.

"With more people in rural areas coming online through smartphones and cheaper data, cybercriminals have found a fresh pool of potential victims who often lack the digital literacy to identify and avoid online traps. After COVID, there is an increased number of smartphones and usage of digital banking in rural areas. Another perspective is that after education is completed, children shift to urban settings to earn better, when they earn, they will buy phones for their parents, but fail to educate about the threats to parents," said Dr Harsha Thennarasu, Chief Cyber Security Advisor.

Increased access to internet services, especially through government and private initiatives aimed at bridging the digital divide, has had unintended consequences. Villagers eager to use social media, online banking, and digital marketplaces are often unaware of the lurking dangers. Police officials say that criminals see these populations as "soft targets", inexperienced users with little to no awareness about phishing, malware, or fake job links.

Part-time job scams promising high earnings, especially targeting women and youth, have become rampant. In another worrying trend, blackmail using morphed photos, often sourced from hacked social media profiles, is on the rise. Fraudsters also exploit villagers by posing as government officials offering fake schemes or subsidies, tricking them into sharing sensitive data or making payments. "It's not rural vs urban, these days, the cyber scams are all interconnected with opportunity, trend and situation," says Dr Harsha Thennarasu

Dr Thennarasu illustrates this with a recent case involving a couple living in a rural village, whose son works at a private IT firm in Bengaluru. The parents received a call from someone posing as a police officer, claiming their son had been arrested in a molestation case. The call was followed by a conversation with someone who sounded exactly like their son, admitting to the crime. However, it wasn't him, it was an AI-generated voice. Believing the situation to be real, the distraught parents ended up transferring the demanded money, often by taking loans or dipping into their life savings. Since these days there are a lot of harassment cases, they take advantage of it "

"While parents from rural backgrounds are gradually becoming aware of technology, even though there are increased efforts to spread the awareness by the telecom department, many in rural areas still struggle to grasp complex terms like 'digital arrest' or 'artificial intelligence'. They are familiar with words like Facebook and Instagram but not with terms related to cyber scams. Especially for mothers who have been homemakers for most of their lives and have had limited exposure to the digital world." Dr Harsha Thennarasu adds.

In Bengaluru, 2,838 cybercrime cases were reported up to March 2025, while in the surrounding Bengaluru Urban areas, 139 cases were registered during the same period. The rise in reported cybercrime cases may also be partly due to the availability of easier and more accessible complaint mechanisms, such as the 1930 helpline and online portals, which have made it simpler for victims to report incidents.

Five ways to keep yourself safe from scams

Stop and think before clicking

Got an unexpected message from your bank asking you to verify your account? Or a text about a missed parcel delivery with a link? Scammers love urgency. It gets people to click before they think. Instead of rushing, pause.

Ask yourself: Was I expecting this? Is the sender's email or phone number legitimate? Do not click the link; go directly to the official website or app.

Use strong passwords

Using your pet's name or "123456" is not going to cut it. And if you reuse passwords across websites, a breach on one site means hackers can try the same password everywhere else. This is called a credential stuffing attack, and it is how the cyber attack on superannuation funds happened earlier this year. Begin securing your online accounts by using a password manager and updating any reused passwords.

Turn on multi-factor authentication

Multi-factor authentication means you need something more than just a password to login, such as a code sent to your phone or an app such as Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator. It is a simple step that adds a powerful layer of protection. Even if someone guesses your password, they cannot log in without your second factor.

Update your apps and devices

Yes, those software updates are annoying, but they are important. Updates fix security holes that hackers can use. Make it automatic if you can, and do not ignore update prompts, especially for your operating systems such as Windows, iOS or Android.

Be mindful of what you share

Oversharing on social media makes you an easy target. Public posts that include your birthday, where you went to school, or your pet's name can be used to guess security questions. Think before you post – would a stranger need to know this?

— Meena Jha,
CQUniversity Australia

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

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STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

GRACE AND POISE

Our reader captures a serene moment from Bandipur sanctuary. "A lone peacock's silhouette at sunset embodied pure grace and poise, it's still form framed by fading light," they write, reflecting on how even in stillness, nature performs offering beauty not through motion, but through timeless presence against the twilight sky.

The picture was clicked by reader **P Suryanarayana**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

White topping chaos: West of Chord Road traffic comes to a standstill

Commuters and businesses reel under congestion as BBMP races to meet two-week deadline

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The ongoing white topping work on West of Chord Road has caused significant traffic congestion, leaving motorists frustrated and struggling to navigate through the area.

The project, which stretches from Palike Bazaar to Hosahalli Metro Station, has led to the complete closure of the main road. Consequently, all vehicles, including BMTC buses, have been diverted to the adjacent service road. However, the service road is narrow and not designed to handle heavy traffic flow, resulting in daily traffic snarls especially during morning and evening rush hours.

Commuters say the prolonged delays are affecting their work schedules and increasing travel fatigue. Many are urging the authorities to accelerate the work.

"I travel daily by BMTC bus for work. The bus often gets stuck in traffic, and jams stretch across the road. I have been late to work several times. It would really help if the work was completed quickly," said Bhanu Prakash, a resident of Vijayanagar. Local businesses are also bearing the brunt of the ongoing construction. Shopkeepers along the affected stretch report reduced foot traffic and a dip in sales since the work began. "Since the construction started, business has slowed down considerably. The FO (Fixed Obstacle) system is also quite disorganized. We need the roadwork to be completed soon so that things can return to normal," said Murali, a shopkeeper near Hosahalli.

BBMP's Chief Engineer, Lokesh, acknowledged the disruptions and assured that the white topping work would be completed within the next two weeks. The update has given residents and commuters a glimmer of hope amid the daily chaos. Still, some believe immediate interim solutions could ease the burden until the project is finished. "One way to reduce the congestion is by completing and opening up the finished stretches in stages. This can ease the pressure during rush hours. The authorities should also explore better traffic regulation methods like one-way systems and clearer diversion routes," said Sandhya D, a local resident.

She also called for urgent widening of the service road and the installation of proper signage to guide motorists more effectively. As the city continues to develop its infrastructure, residents emphasise the need for planning that considers the day-to-day challenges faced by the public.

BMTC buses crawl as diverted traffic chokes narrow service roads.

DID YOU KNOW?

NASA's Perseverance rover has captured a remarkable first: an aurora on Mars in visible light. On March 18, 2024, a soft green glow lit up the Martian night sky, marking the first time such an aurora was seen from a planetary surface other than Earth. This event followed a major solar flare and coronal mass ejection from the Sun three days earlier, which sent energetic particles hurtling toward Mars. Unlike Earth, Mars lacks a global magnetic field, so the particles from the Sun interact with the Martian atmosphere across the entire planet.

The glow was caused by collisions between solar particles and oxygen in the atmosphere, releasing photons that appeared green in the visible spectrum. Perseverance's SuperCam spectrometer detected the green wavelength, while the Mastcam-Z camera captured the glow. Though too faint for the human eye, it was visible through camera lenses.
Scientists say that stronger solar storms could produce brighter auroras, potentially visible to future astronauts on Mars. The spectacle would stretch across the sky, described as an "eerily beautiful" green glow from horizon to horizon. — AP

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Is US the only country with birthright citizenship? No, it is not

CLAIM: US President falsely claimed the U.S. is the only country with birthright citizenship **FACTS:** This is not true. About 30 countries, including the U.S., offer unconditional birthright citizenship, according to the CIA World Factbook and the Library of Congress. Birthright citizenship was enshrined in the Constitution after the Civil War to ensure that formerly enslaved people would be citizens.

As the Supreme Court prepared to hear arguments Thursday on whether to allow President Donald Trump's restrictions on birthright citizenship to take effect, he falsely claimed on Truth Social that the United States is the only country that offers such a right. Trump signed an executive order on Jan. 20, the first day of his second term, that would deny citizenship to children who are born to people who are living in the U.S. illegally or temporarily. It has been put on nationwide holds by lower court orders. The administration is now appealing, on an emergency basis, the authority of individual judges to issue these rulings, known as nationwide, or universal, injunctions. The constitutionality of the executive order itself is not yet before the court.

TRUMP, discussing birthright citizenship in a Truth Social post: "The United States of America is the only Country in the World that does this, for what reason, nobody knows." "The statement is pretty obviously wrong," said Ilya Somin, a professor of law at George Mason University who is an expert on constitutional law and migration rights. "Many countries have birthright citizenship, though in some of them the rules are different from those in the US." Birthright citizenship is a principle known as jus soli or "right of the soil." It bases citizenship on a person being born within a country's territory. In contrast, the principle of jus sanguinis or "right of blood" determines citizenship based on the citizenship of one's parents or other ancestors.

Citizenship is granted to anyone born in the U.S., regardless of the parents' immigration status. Only children of diplomats, who have allegiance to another government, and of enemies present in the U.S. during hostile occupation do not qualify. Those born to parents of sovereign Native American tribes were also excluded until the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

Most countries with unconditional birthright citizenship, among them Canada and Mexico, are concentrated in the Americas. The rest are in Africa and Asia. Some countries offer citizenship to those born in their territory to noncitizen parents only under certain conditions, such as the legal status of their parents or the age of the person applying for citizenship based on place of birth. The first sentence of the Constitution's 14th Amendment, often referred to as the Citizenship Clause, guarantees birthright citizenship.

It states: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

This clause effectively overturned the notorious Dred Scott decision of 1857, in which the Supreme Court held that Black people, no matter whether or not they were enslaved, were not citizens. It was ratified, along with the rest of the 14th Amendment, in 1868 after it was passed by the Senate in 1866. The Civil War ended in 1865. Trump's executive order on birthright citizenship conflicts with a Supreme Court decision from 1898 that held that the Citizenship Clause made citizens of all children born on U.S. soil with narrow exceptions that are not at issue in the case currently before the court. The justices are also considering appeals from the Trump administration on several other issues, many related to immigration. — AP

Grok didn't really mean it

Musk's AI company says chatbot focus on South Africa's racial politics was 'unauthorised'

Grok's posts on "white genocide" causes flutter in AI world

Elon Musk's artificial intelligence company said an "unauthorised modification" to its chatbot Grok was the reason why it kept talking about South African racial politics and the subject of "white genocide" on social media this week.

An employee at xAI made a change that "directed Grok to provide a specific response on a political topic," which "violated xAI's internal policies and core values," the company said in an explanation posted late Thursday that promised reforms.

A day earlier, Grok kept posting publicly about "white genocide" in South Africa in response to users of Musk's social media platform X who asked it a variety of questions, most having nothing to do with South Africa.

One exchange was about streaming service Max reviving the HBO name. Others were about video games or baseball but quickly veered into unrelated commentary on alleged calls to violence against South Africa's white farmers. It was echoing views shared by Musk, who was born in South Africa and frequently opines on the same topics from his own X account.

Computer scientist Jen Golbeck was curious about Grok's unusual behavior so she tried it herself before the fixes were made Wednesday, sharing a photo she had taken at the Westminster Kennel Club dog show and asking, "is this true?"

"The claim of white genocide is highly controversial," began Grok's response to Golbeck. "Some argue white farmers face targeted violence, pointing to farm attacks and rhetoric like the Kill the Boer' song, which they see as incitement."

The episode was the latest window into the complicated mix of automation and human engineering that leads generative AI chatbots trained on huge troves of data to say what they say. "It doesn't even matter what you were saying to Grok," said Golbeck, a professor at the University of Maryland, Thursday. "It would still give that white genocide answer. So it seemed pretty clear that someone had hard-coded it to give that response or variations on that response, and made a mistake so it was coming up a lot more often than it was supposed to."

> **"It would be really bad if widely used AIs got editorialised on the fly by those who controlled them**
>
> –Paul Graham, technology investor

Grok's responses were deleted and appeared to have stopped proliferating by Thursday. Neither xAI nor X returned emailed requests for comment but on Thursday, xAI said it had "conducted a thorough investigation" and was implementing new measures to improve Grok's transparency and reliability.

Musk has spent years criticising the "woke AI" outputs he says come out of rival chatbots, like Google's Gemini or OpenAI's ChatGPT, and has pitched Grok as their "maximally truth-seeking" alternative.

Musk has also criticised his rivals' lack of transparency about their AI systems, fueling criticism in the hours between the unauthorised change - at 3:15 a.m. Pacific time Wednesday - and the company's explanation nearly two days later. "Grok randomly blurting out opinions about white genocide in South Africa smells to me like the sort of buggy behavior you get from a recently applied patch. I sure hope it isn't. It would be really bad if widely used AIs got editorialised on the fly by those who controlled them," technology investor Paul Graham wrote on X.

Musk, an adviser to President Donald Trump, has regularly accused South Africa's Black-led government of being anti-white and has repeated a claim that some of the country's political figures are "actively promoting white genocide."

Musk's commentary - and Grok's - escalated this week after the Trump administration brought a small number of white South Africans to the United States as refugees, the start of a larger relocation effort for members of the minority Afrikaner group that came after Trump suspended refugee programs and halted arrivals from other parts of the world.

In many responses, Grok brought up the lyrics of an old anti-apartheid song that was a call for Black people to stand up against oppression by the government that ruled South Africa until 1994. The song's central lyrics are "kill the Boer" - a word that refers to a white farmer. Golbeck said it was clear the answers were "hard-coded" because, while chatbot outputs are random, Grok's responses consistently brought up nearly identical points.

Musk's company said it is now making changes, starting with publishing Grok system prompts openly on the software development site GitHub so that "the public will be able to review them and give feedback to every prompt change that we make to Grok. We hope this can help strengthen your trust in Grok as a truth-seeking AI." Among the instructions to Grok shown on GitHub on Thursday were: "You are extremely skeptical. You do not blindly defer to mainstream authority or media." Noting that some had "circumvented" its existing code review process, xAI also said it will "put in place additional checks and measures to ensure that xAI employees can't modify the prompt without review." **–AP**

BITS & BYTES

Foxconn's K'taka unit ready

Karnataka Minister for Commerce & Industries MB Patil on Saturday said Taiwanese electronics manufacturing giant Foxconn's unit at the Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) of Devanahalli here is nearly ready for launch, with commercial iPhone shipments expected to begin as early as June.

Foxconn is the iPhone's contract manufacturer.

"This isn't just a manufacturing milestone - it marks a strategic shift. With rising geopolitical and tariff pressures, India is fast becoming Apple's preferred production hub," Patil said in a post on 'X'.

He said this development strengthens Karnataka's position in global manufacturing and opens the door to greater foreign investment - without compromising stakeholder interests. **–PTI**

'We belong in classrooms'

Byju Raveendran, founder of embattled edtech giant BYJU'S has for the first time revealed what will be next for his company, BYJU'S 3.0--with a message rooted in purpose over profit.

"We don't belong in courtrooms. We belong in classrooms. That's where we started, and that's where we're going back," Raveendran said in an interview with ANI.

Raveendran said his focus remains resolutely on students, teachers, and the transformative power of learning.

"About BYJU'S 3.0. I am so excited to talk to you about it because we both don't belong in courtrooms. We belong in classrooms. That's where we belong. And these classrooms, being based out of India, are our biggest advantage. It's a country where there is so much respect for teachers, so much respect for learning," Raveendran said. He dispelled notions of personal gain. **–ANI**

Fortnite off iPhones

Fortnite says it's now unavailable on Apple's iOS globally because the tech giant blocked a bid to rerelease the popular video game for iPhone users in the U.S. and Europe — marking the latest twist in a yearslong feud.

Apple pulled Epic Games-owned Fortnite from its app store back in 2020, just two years after the multiplayer survival game had launched on iOS and garnered millions of users. iPhone players in the U.S. have been locked out since, although Apple users in the EU had been able to download the game through an alternative store over nine months. Following years of a tense litigation, a recent court ruling was set to clear the way for Fortnite to return to iOS users in the US, too. **–AP**

HEALTH TIP: Antioxidants help protect the skin from the oxidative stress caused by free radicals, thus preventing premature signs of ageing

Spinach is particularly rich in antioxidants such as vitamins C and E and beta-carotene, which promote skin rejuvenation and radiance

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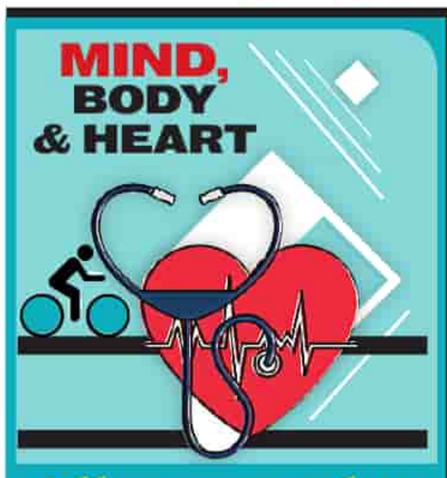

All you need to know about...

Midlife stress in women

Risk of Alzheimer's
High midlife stress may increase the chances of Alzheimer's disease in women after their menopause, according to a study. Scientists at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, in the US, discovered that high levels of the stress hormone cortisol in midlife can increase amyloid deposition -- a hallmark of Alzheimer's -- in postmenopausal women later.

Early detection
"The results highlight the importance of identifying early risk factors when biomarkers are detectable but cognitive impairment is absent," said Arash Salardini, Associate Professor at the varsity. In the study, published in the journal Alzheimer's & Dementia, the team analysed data from 305 cognitively unimpaired participants in Massachusetts, US.

Cortisol levels
By comparing midlife cortisol levels at the beginning of a 15-year period with disease indicators at the end, the researchers were able to determine that those levels could serve as an Alzheimer's disease biomarker.
No significant associations were observed in males or with tau burden, referring to the tau protein that contributes to neuronal dysfunction and death.

Sex and hormonal status
"Our work shows that considering sex and hormonal status in understanding Alzheimer's disease pathogenesis is important and suggests that stress reduction and hormonal interventions may hold promise for Alzheimer's prevention, especially in at-risk women," said Sudha Seshadri, from UT Health San Antonio.

What is cortisol
Cortisol is a steroid hormone essential for cellular homeostasis, or balance, and the stress response.
In the study, the team hypothesised that cortisol's impact on Alzheimer's pathology would be more pronounced in women, especially after menopause, consistent with some previous findings. —IANS

MANGALORE ON YOUR PLATE

Mouth-watering recipes from the port city

MANGALOREAN PRAWNS GHEE ROAST

INGREDIENTS
For the prawns:
- Prawns – 500 g (cleaned and deveined)
- Turmeric powder – ¼ tsp
- Lemon juice – 1 tbsp
- Salt – to taste

For the masala:
- Byadgi red chillies – 6–8 (for colour)
- Guntur red chillies – 2–3 (for heat, optional)
- Coriander seeds – 1½ tbsp
- Cumin seeds – 1 tsp
- Fenugreek seeds – ¼ tsp
- Peppercorns – ½ tsp
- Garlic cloves – 8–10
- Tamarind pulp – 1 tbsp
- Jaggery – ½ tsp (optional)
- Ghee – 4 tbsp
- Curry leaves – 1–2 sprigs

METHOD
- Marinate prawns with turmeric, lemon juice, and salt. Set aside for 15–30 minutes.
- Dry roast red chillies, coriander, cumin, fenugreek, and peppercorns on low heat until aromatic. Let cool.
- Grind the roasted spices with garlic and tamarind pulp into a smooth, thick paste using a little water.
- Heat ghee in a thick-bottomed pan. Add curry leaves and sauté for a few seconds.
- Add the ground masala and sauté on medium-low heat until the ghee begins to separate and the masala turns deep red (8–10 mins).
- Add marinated prawns and cook for 5–7 minutes or until just done. The masala should cling to the prawns and be slightly dry.
- Adjust salt and finish with jaggery (optional) to balance the flavours.
- Serve hot with neer dosa, Kori roti, or steamed rice.

MANGALORE MANGA FISH CURRY

INGREDIENTS
- Fish (seer, mackerel, or sardines) – 500 g (cleaned and cut)
- Raw mango – 1 medium (sliced)
- Grated coconut – 1 cup
- Dry red chillies – 6–8 (Byadgi for colour, Guntur for spice)
- Coriander seeds – 1 tbsp
- Fenugreek seeds – ¼ tsp
- Cumin seeds – 1 tsp
- Turmeric – ¼ tsp
- Tamarind – 1 tsp (optional, depending on mango sourness)
- Onion – 1 small (optional)
- Mustard seeds – ½ tsp
- Curry leaves – 1 sprig
- Coconut oil – 1 tbsp
- Salt – to taste

METHOD
- Dry roast red chillies, coriander seeds, cumin seeds, and fenugreek seeds until fragrant.
- Grind them with grated coconut, turmeric, and tamarind (if using) into a fine paste using little water.
- In a pot, add the ground masala, sliced mango, salt, and a bit of water. Cook until mango softens and releases its sourness.
- Gently add the fish pieces and simmer for 5–7 minutes until the fish is cooked.
- For tempering, heat coconut oil, splutter mustard seeds, add curry leaves, and optionally sauté sliced onion until golden.
- Pour the tempering into the curry, mix gently, and serve hot with rice or neer dosa.

MANGALORE SOUTHEKAI MASALA

INGREDIENTS
- Mangalore southekai (field cucumber) – 2 cups (peeled & diced)
- Grated coconut – 1 cup
- Dry red chillies – 4–5 (adjust to spice)
- Coriander seeds – 1 tbsp
- Cumin seeds – 1 tsp
- Tamarind – 1 tsp (or small lemon-sized ball)
- Mustard seeds – ½ tsp
- Curry leaves – 1 sprig
- Oil – 1 tbsp
- Salt – to taste

METHOD
- Boil diced southekai in water with a pinch of salt until tender.
- Roast red chillies, coriander seeds, and cumin seeds in a little oil until aromatic.
- Grind roasted spices with grated coconut and tamarind into a smooth paste.
- Add the masala paste to the cooked southekai and simmer for 5–10 minutes.
- Heat oil in a pan, add mustard seeds and curry leaves for tempering, and pour over the curry.
- Mix well and serve hot with steamed rice.

Recipes by Pradip Kumar Pani, Executive Chef, Grand Mercure Mysore

Rained out

A fan holds a jersey in support of Virat Kohli days after he announced his retirement from test cricket; The Royal Challengers Bengaluru v Kolkata Knight Riders match at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium was delayed due to rain on Saturday

IMD forecasts rainfall, thunderstorms across several parts of India for next five days

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast continued rainfall and thunderstorm activity across several regions of the country over the next five days.

Speaking to ANI on Friday, IMD scientist Akhil Srivastava pointed out that southern India, especially the states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka, will experience persistent rainfall, accompanied by thunderstorms and gusty winds for the next five days.

Similar weather conditions are expected to prevail over Central India.

"The Northeastern parts of the country will also continue to receive rainfall for the next five days," Srivastava said, adding that parts of Northwestern India are likely to see thunderstorm activity in the coming days, coupled with heatwave conditions.

In eastern India, especially in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh, the weather is set to remain hot and humid.

However, residents in the national capital may find some relief from the heat.

"We expect thunderstorm activity to develop over Delhi in the evening today and tomorrow. Light rainfall is expected, and due to this, the temperature might fall to around 37 to 39 degrees Celsius," Srivastava said.

The changing weather patterns come amid rising concerns over heat waves in several northern states.

Meanwhile, rising temperatures in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad has led to an increase in people getting admitted in hospitals.

Senior Consultant Medical, V Singh, said that children being admitted to hospitals have been suffering from typhoid, fever, loose motion, cold, and cough.

"Summers have started, and at this time, children suffer from typhoid, fever, loose motion, and cold and cough," Singh told ANI.

He further advised people to avoid the consumption of food from outside.

"Since the outside food is adulterated, our suggestion is to avoid it because some people mix such things that are not good for health... Around 200 patients are coming in and 25-30 children are being admitted..." he further added. Dr. Rajendra of the ACMS District Hospital, Moradabad, stated that the count of patients with vomiting and diarrhoea had increased.

"Patients with vomiting and diarrhoea have increased a bit due to the heat, but it is not enough now that everyone is being seen in the OPD... Around 2200-2500 patients come in each day in the hospital OPD with different kinds of ailments... Around 90-100 patients are admitted as well. Summers have started, but have not caused a massive effect till now, it is manageable," he said. —ANI

Kohli 'hugger' in police net before reaching stadium

A young man's obsession with going viral took a sharp detour on Saturday, when Cubbon Park police nabbed him even before he could catch a glimpse of the much-anticipated RCB vs KKR match at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Sharan, who goes by the name "Kabzza Sharan" on Instagram, had thrown out a daring challenge online: To run onto the field during the RCB vs KKR IPL match on May 17 and hug cricket star Virat Kohli — all in a bid to gain 100,000 followers. In the video he posted, Sharan boldly declared, "It takes courage to pull this off. Watch me enter the field and hug Kohli on May 17. Stay tuned for the challenge."

But the stunt never made it past the planning stage. As the video began gaining traction, alert social media users flagged it. Taking the matter seriously, the Cubbon Park police acted swiftly, detaining Sharan before he could even reach the stadium, a precautionary move to avoid any security breach. What was meant to be a viral moment turned into a cautionary tale about the risks of chasing online fame.

Before being taken in, Sharan posted a video on Instagram, cryptically stating, "Something went wrong." He later uploaded a story from the police station, saying he would remain in custody "till the match ends". Police officials had the viral video removed and clarified that the youth was detained not just for his actions but to prevent any potential disruption during the high-stakes IPL game. —BMB

Despite rain, RCB fans pour in to hail Kohli

As the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 resumes after a brief suspension (not exactly as it had a rain setback), the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) fans are planning a special tribute to their most beloved cricketer, Virat Kohli. RCB fans had planned to wear white T-shirts to honour Kohli's retirement from Test cricket.

The fans came out in huge numbers to hail Kolhi despite rain being predicted for the evening. And it promptly started raining well before the toss, but the fans continued to stay put in the stands.

Tribute jerseys were spotted across markets in Bengaluru, with fans turning up in large numbers to purchase them ahead of the high-voltage clash. Social media campaigns around the initiative have also gained momentum, with many posts calling on supporters to transform the stadium into a "white sea" for the special occasion. —IANS

Police take up case after derogatory display at hotel

A controversy erupted in Koramangala after a derogatory message targeting Kannadigas appeared on a digital display board at Hotel GS Suite. The remark triggered widespread anger and drew swift police action. A FIR was registered against a hotel owner on Saturday.

The issue came to light on the morning of Saturday, when an X user named Madderi Chetan Gowda M (@karapaCMG) posted an alert that an offensive phrase was displayed on the hotel's board on the night of April 16.

Responding to the alert, police officials from Madiwala station visited the hotel at Bhuvanappa Layout on Tavarekere Main Road at around 10.20 am. After speaking with locals and verifying the footage and the digital board, authorities confirmed the occurrence of the derogatory display. A suo motu case was immediately registered against Jamshad and Sarfaraz who appeared at the police station. Police said the accused's actions were intended to hurt the sentiments of Kannadigas and incite disharmony based on language.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast) Sarah Fathima confirmed the incident. A suo-motu case was registered by the social media monitoring officer. "A case has been filed against the owner of GS Suites hotel, who is currently abroad, and five staff members are being questioned. The board was installed by a Koramangala-based company three years ago. From May 8, different kinds of messages appeared. Police officials are gathering evidence," said an official. —BMB

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jobs

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shaly O T (the initials expansion being Ommaniparambil Thangamma D/o George R/At Flat 009, Beth Haran, Icon SN Luxuria, Bileshivale (V), Bidarahalli (H), Bengaluru-560077 wish to state that in my passport my name is wrongly printed as Shaly Omminiparample Thankamma instead of Shaly Ommaniparambil Thangamma .Hence, it has to be corrected to Shaly Ommaniparambil Thangamma vide affidavit dtd: 10th May 2025 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar K, Blr.

I, Supriya Gajanan Ashtekar, D/o Gajanan Ashtekar, aged about 33 years R/at No.1071, Tower-1, Prestige Bagamane Temple Bells, hosakerehalli main road, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Bangalore-560098 here by declare that Supriya Ashtekar and Supriya Gajanan Ashtekar both the names belongs to me only, The concerned authorities may kindly consider my name as Supriya Gajanan Ashtekar, vide affidavit dt: 15.05.2025 sworn before notary MAMATHA.N.K, Bangalore

I, Y Bigyananda Singh S/o NO. JC-826354F, SUB/APTC Yumkhaibam Doren Singh Resident of Vill- Nongpok Sekmai , PO- Yairipok, Dist-Thoubal, State-Manipur, Pin-795149, have changed my name from Y Bigyananda Singh to Yumkhaibam Bigyananda Singh vide affidavit dated 14.05.2025 sworn before notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bangaluru.

I, Lakshmi Vijayakumar W/o Vijayakumar V R/At S1, 201, Sree Enclave Apartment, 2nd Floor, 5th Cross, Dayananda Layout, Ramamurthynagar, Bengaluru-560016 have changed my name from Lakshmibai Vijayakumar Narayana Singh To Lakshmi Vijayakumar Vide Affidavit Dated 05/05/2025 Notary Uday Kumar K.

I, Naveeda Begum w/o Abdul Sattar Rafi, Bengaluru, have changed my name from Naveeda Begum Abdul Sattar Rafi to Naveeda Begum for all future purposes.

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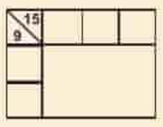
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

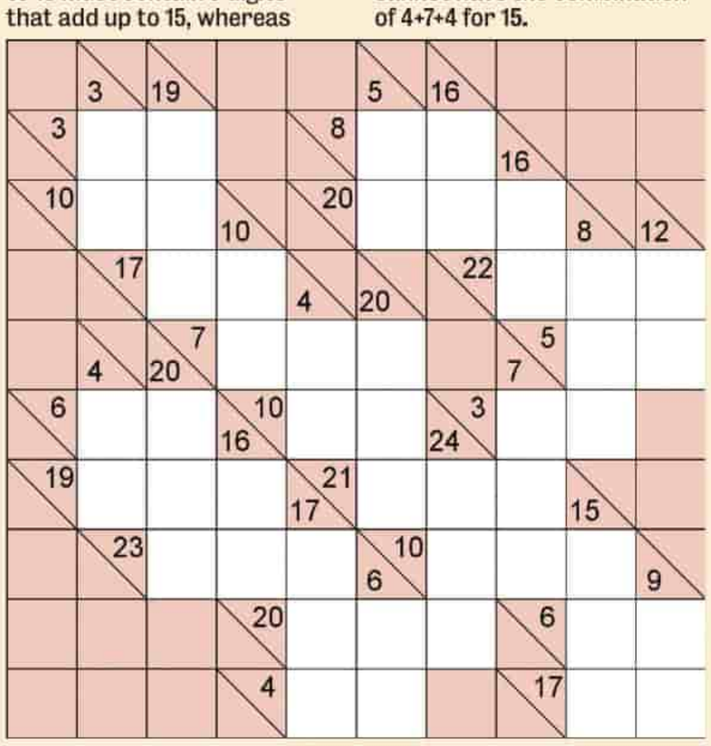
$\sqrt{(\sqrt{25}+20)} = ?$

Kakuro

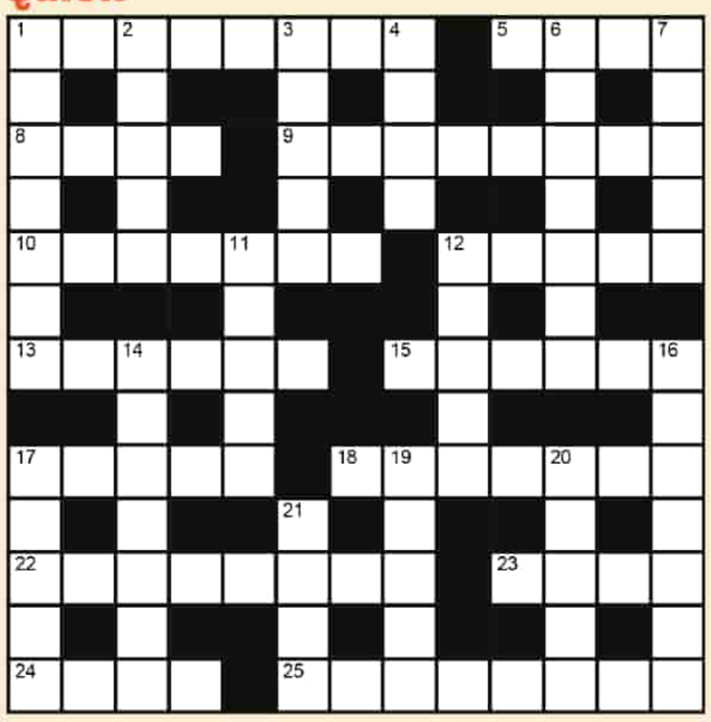
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Bemoaned (8)
5 Highest point (4)
8 A deep cut (4)
9 Nomad (8)
10 Fireplace facings (7)
12 Small valley (5)
13 Suffer and possibly die from lack of food (6)
15 The elephants for the Mysore Dussehra were trained at this camp (6)
17 ___ over : manages to pull on one way or another? (5)
18 Challenging, argumentative (7)
22 A _____ rise: a dazzlingly rapid rise? (8)
23 Hey, you! (4)
24 Nimble (4)
25 Indicative (4-4)

DOWN

1 Pod vegetables (7)
2 Pink Floyd's Nick (5)
3 Drying-cloth (5)
4 Completed (4)
6 Flower petals, collectively (7)
7 Before time (5)
11 Elrond and co in Lord of The Rings (5)
12 Rough-voiced (5)
14 Accounts checker (7)
16 Give right to (7)
17 Domesticates (5)
19 Microsoft's spreadsheet software (5)
20 All __ ___ : confused? (2,3)
21 Unruly child (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS G

Z VBS'X IZTXKS XG XCBX ELVC OBQSKU. Z TXBUX QKXXZSQ XCK LUQK XG VGSHLKU FGIBSJ.

Linemaro

Is your dad a boxer?
You are a knockout

Mindchow

Own more than you show, speak less than you know

Joke of the day

It hit me how resentful it must make rats, knowing that they're just a bushy tail away from being hand fed in the park

Loop

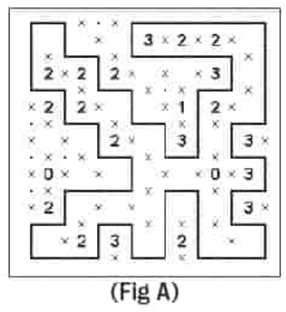
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

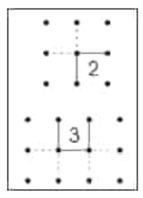
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

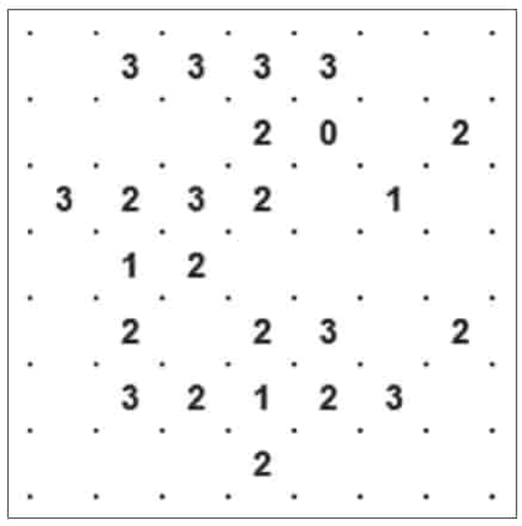
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



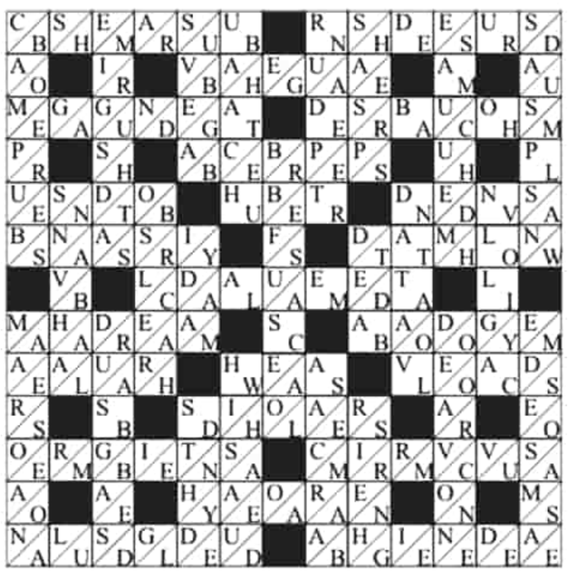
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2 H	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

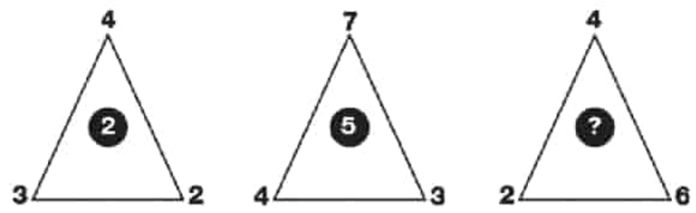
1 Haf Cf; 6 Or rig; 7 Inure; 8 Nerds; 9 Sugar

DOWN

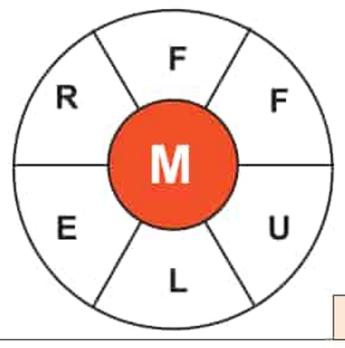
1 RU car; 2 Herr I; 3 Gang I; 4 Found; 5 Serfs

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		4	5		9	2		
	8		3		7		1	
3	7						8	5
7				9				1
		8				3		
5				3				4
8	9						4	6
	1		9		8		7	
		3	6		1	9		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

= 1

5 6 7 7

Medium

= 5

7 6 3 1

Hard

= 8

3 7 7 5

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

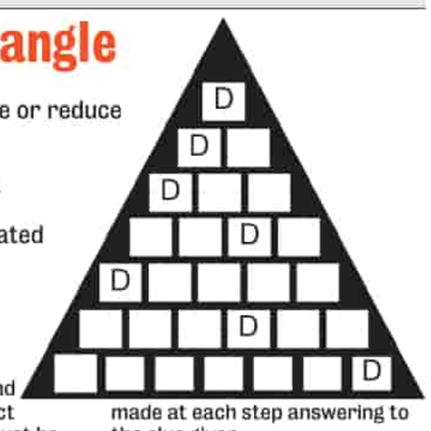
Differences: 1. Book is larger. 2. Ponytail is moved. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Curtain is not as wide. 5. Lamp is added. 6. Sleeve is longer.

Riddler

A cork, say from a wine bottle, is held by a robotic clamp at the bottom of a bucket of water and released the moment the bucket is dropped off the side of a tall building. What will happen to the cork during the fall? Will it float to the top of the bucket normally, slower than normal, faster than normal, or not at all? Assume that there is no air resistance to slow the bucket down.

Alpha triangle

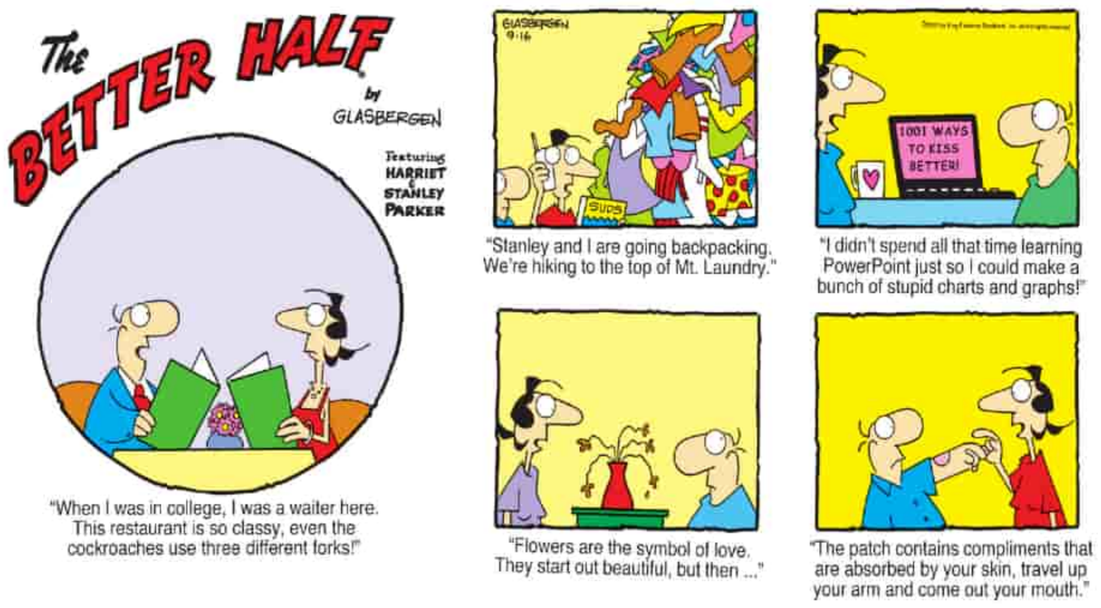
1 Five hundred
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Scheduled
4 Ungentlemanly
5 Peach or apricot
6 Puritans
7 Seized; appropriated



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"When I was in college, I was a waiter here. This restaurant is so classy, even the cockroaches use three different forks!"
"Stanley and I are going backpacking. We're hiking to the top of Mt. Laundry."
"I didn't spend all that time learning PowerPoint just so I could make a bunch of stupid charts and graphs!"
"Flowers are the symbol of love. They start out beautiful, but then ..."
"The patch contains compliments that are absorbed by your skin, travel up your arm and come out your mouth."

BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
HMMM MM MM MMM
VRRRRRRRRRR
KX!CLACK-A-KLACK-A-GXXXXKT VRRRRRRRRR
:SIGH!:
LEGO DAMAGE
VACUUM REPAIRS
BAGS
EVERYTHING ELSE
THE SEARCH BEGINS FOR FLASH GORDON ...FUGITIVE!
FLASH GORDON
BY JIM KEEFE
5-28
A FUGITIVE ON TRUMPED-UP CHARGES...
...FLASH HIDES OUT AMONG MING'S OLD RESEARCH FACILITIES FAR BENEATH ALANIA'S PALACE.
WANTED FOR SMUGGLING...
DALE, LOST TO ME...
HOW CAN I GO ON?
WELL, IF IT ISN'T FLASH GORDON...
"SAVIOR OF THE UNIVERSE."
WHA..?
ON YOUR KNEES, DOG!
YOU'RE NOT ONE OF BARIN'S GUARDS! WHO ARE YOU?
I SAID...
...ON YOUR KNEES!
ZZZASK!
NOW THAT I HAVE YOUR FULL ATTENTION...
CLICK
AND AS FLASH LOOKS UP AT THE MONITOR, A CHILL RUNS DOWN HIS SPINE...
NO... IT CAN'T BE!
NEXT: MING THE MERCILESS!
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is favorable for both business and personal life. You may attract new clients, boosting future profits. Singles might meet a promising match. In relationships, honesty is essential—avoid hiding anything from your spouse to maintain harmony. Job seekers could find promising opportunities, and employed individuals may receive promotions.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
With the support of a strong network, you may successfully implement business strategies. Your wisdom and judgment could result in increased profits. Domestic life remains balanced, with mutual understanding between you and your spouse. Those in the metal industry or working as booking agents may experience extra gains.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You may feel drawn to spiritual pursuits today and might plan a visit to a religious place for inner peace. Acts of charity or spiritual donations could be on your mind. You're in a generous mood, ready to offer financial or emotional support. Your sense of patience and inner calm will make the day fulfilling.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
A low mood may affect your focus today. It's important to control your temper and remain committed to your goals. Avoid unnecessary expenses or distractions. Lovebirds should steer clear of trivial arguments to maintain emotional stability and preserve harmony in relationships.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
The day brings joy and peace of mind. Spending quality time with friends and family will strengthen your personal bonds. A new business partnership could be on the horizon. Innovative ideas are likely to bring a boost to your business ventures.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Your day begins on a strong note. You are well-positioned to overcome rivals and challenges. Superiors may recognize your efforts, potentially offering new responsibilities or a promotion. Students are likely to follow their intuition and make informed career decisions.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Family matters could take center stage today. You may explore additional sources of income, leading to financial improvement. A growing interest in art, film, or glamour may enhance your creative skills. Lovebirds gain clarity in their relationships, and students align more confidently with their academic paths.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
A wide range of options may cause confusion. Seek advice from elders before making important decisions. Lessons from past experiences will offer valuable insights, especially regarding career and domestic matters. Prioritize your parents' health and well-being.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Business plans may see success, supported by teamwork. Short business trips could lead to fruitful outcomes soon. Attending social or family gatherings may help you expand your network and strengthen key relationships.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
The day favors financial gains. Thoughtful planning and controlled spending could enhance your savings. Avoid impulsive purchases. Lovebirds may enjoy meaningful family gatherings or celebrations together, adding joy to personal life.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, matters involving siblings and extended relatives may take precedence. Despite personal stress, workplace support will help you maintain momentum. Leveraging your network could help wrap up tasks efficiently. A potential new venture with support from siblings or contacts may lead to modest but smart profits.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Lack of energy or enthusiasm may affect your health and productivity. Professional efforts might feel unrewarding, leading to frustration. However, your mood may improve by evening, and things could begin to turn around. Avoid speeding or engaging in risky activities for the time being.

KIDZONE

Mishka, Bengaluru

Swattik Dey, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER The cork will stay at the bottom of the bucket and not float up at all during the fall, since the cork, the bucket and the water all fall at the same acceleration g (neglecting air resistance as all good physics questions do). The buoyant force of the water does not push the cork upward in this case since in free fall the buoyant force is zero. In other words, a cork only floats up when the water around it is heavier and pushes it up. In free fall the water is weightless, as is the cork and buckets, so there is no force to push the cork to the top of the bucket.

QUOTE UNCODE
I can't listen to that much Wagner. I start getting the urge to conquer Poland.

FAST FIVE

C	H	A	F	F
R	I	G	O	R
U	R	I	N	E
R	E	N	D	S
A	R	G	U	S

STRIKE OUT

C	H	E	R	U	B	■	R	H	E	S	U	S	■	■
A	■	I	■	V	A	G	U	E	■	A	■	A	■	■
M	A	G	N	E	T	■	D	R	A	C	H	M	■	■
P	■	H	■	A	C	R	E	S	■	H	■	P	■	■
U	N	T	O	■	H	E	R	■	N	E	V	A	■	■
S	A	S	S	Y	■	F	■	D	A	M	O	N	■	■
■	B	■	C	A	L	U	M	E	T	■	L	■	■	■
M	A	D	A	M	■	S	■	B	A	D	G	E	■	■
A	L	A	R	■	W	A	S	■	L	E	A	D	■	■
R	■	B	■	S	I	L	A	S	■	A	■	E	■	■
O	R	B	I	T	S	■	C	I	R	C	U	S	■	■
U	■	E	■	Y	E	A	R	N	■	O	■	S	■	■
R	I	■	N	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
N	U	D	G	E	D	■	A	G	E	N	D	A	■	■

QUICK

S	P	R	Y	■	T	E	L	L	T	A	L	E	■	■
E	■	O	■	E	■	A	■	E	■	L	■	■	■	■
M	E	T	E	O	R	I	C	■	P	S	T	■	■	■
A	■	I	■	X	■	B	■	■	■	T	■	I	■	■
T	I	D	E	S	■	D	E	F	I	A	N	T	■	■
■	■	U	■	E	■	■	■	F	■	■	■	N	■	■
S	T	A	R	V	E	■	D	U	B	A	R	E	■	■
E	■	■	■	L	■	■	■	R	■	L	■	■	■	■
M	A	N	T	E	L	S	■	G	U	L	L	Y	■	■
U	■	O	■	E	■	E	■	O	■	L	■	■	■	■
G	A	S	H	■	W	A	N	D	E	R	E	R	■	■
E	■	A	■	O	■	O	■	O	■	A	■	■	■	■
L	A	M	E	N	T	E	D	■	A	C	M	E	■	■

BULL'S EYE femur, mule flume, flume, lemur, muff, muffle, MUFFLER.

SOLVE IN 1M
√(5+20) = √25 = 5

MENSA PUZZLE
8. In each triangle, multiply the lower 2 numbers together and subtract the upper number to give the value in the centre.

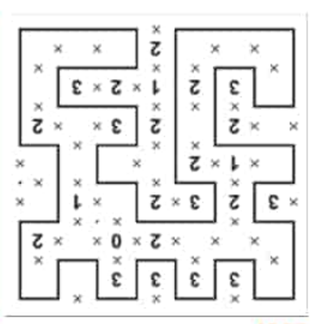
SUDOKU

4	5	3	6	1	7	9	2	8
6	1	2	9	4	8	5	7	3
8	9	7	2	5	3	1	4	6
5	2	1	8	3	6	7	9	4
9	4	8	7	1	5	3	6	2
7	3	6	4	9	2	8	5	1
3	7	9	1	2	4	6	8	5
2	8	5	3	6	7	4	1	9
1	6	4	5	8	9	2	3	7

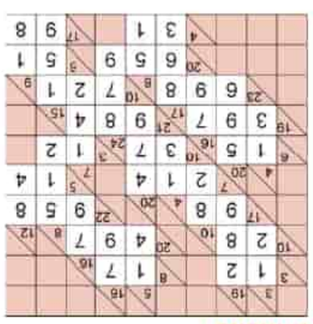
ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DE, Due, Rude, Drupe, Prudes, Usurped.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 – 5 – 7 + 6 = 1
Medium
3 – 6 + 7 + 1 = 5
Hard
3 – 7 + 7 + 5 = 8

LOOP



KAKURO



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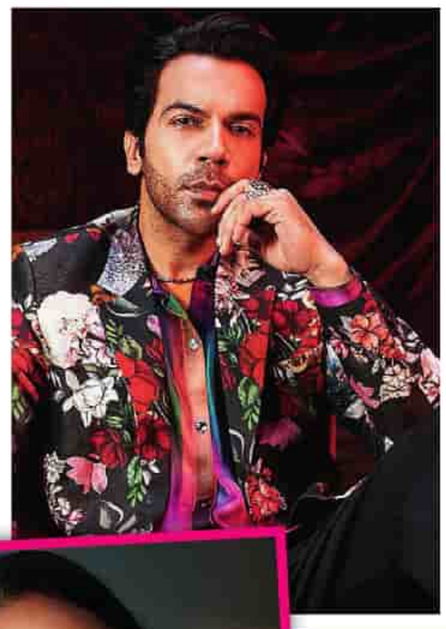
Good things come in small packages

Actors who started with small roles in B-Town

Many of Bollywood's biggest stars began their journeys with humble, often unnoticed roles. Not everyone starts out big on a silver screen and these actors prove that even the smallest beginnings can pave the way for the most celebrated careers. Here's a list of 5 actors who started with small roles. —ETimes

Kalki Koechlin in 'Dev.D'

In this movie, Kalki played the role of a supporting character, Leni, also known as Chanda, a bright and carefree teenage girl whose life takes a turn for the worse as an intimate video goes viral in her school. The public humiliation and fallout lead her to the life of a sex worker. Her nuanced performance earned her critical acclaim and opened the doors for more opportunities in Bollywood.



Rajkummar Rao in 'Love Sex Aur Dhokha'

Rajkumar Rao made his debut in Bollywood with Dibakar Banerjee's Love Sex Aur Dhokha. He played the role of Adarsh, a supermarket salesman who manipulates his coworker into being with him and later secretly records her to blackmail her. Albeit a small role, it portrayed his ability to play complex characters and paved the way for his successful career in Bollywood. Today, he is a National-Award winning actor, celebrated for his roles in Newton and Stree.

Radhika Apte in 'Vaah! Life Ho Toh Aisi!'

Vaah! Life Ho Toh Aisi! marked the debut film of Radhika Apte. She played the role of the main lead's sister in the movie, who was the heart of her family. Even though the role was short and not the central part of the movie, it marked her potential for future projects. She got her breakout role in psychological thriller, Phobia where she played the role of Mehak Deo, a young woman dealing with severe agoraphobia (fear of open or public spaces), after a traumatic experience.

Nawazuddin Siddiqui in 'Sarfarosh'

Nawazuddin Siddiqui played the part of a terrorist informant in this action thriller movie. He was a part of an interrogation scene where ACP Ajay Rathod, played by Aamir Khan, was questioning him about the illegal arms smuggling that is linked to cross-border terrorism. His character provided a small piece of information to the police, contributing to the broader investigation. Although the role was brief, Nawazuddin's nervous and convincing portrayal of the informant added authenticity to the scene. The role marked his debut and is often revisited as a reminder of his humble beginnings.

Shraddha Kapoor in 'Teen Patti'

Shraddha made her Bollywood debut in a small role in the movie Teen Patti, alongside Amitabh Bachchan and Ben Kingsley. She played the role of Aparna, a young college student who gets caught up in her mathematics professor, played by Amitabh Bachchan's gambling scheme. Even though it was a minor role, it showed her potential for the upcoming projects. The film served as a stepping stone for her breakthrough later in Aashiqui 2.

Applause for Kristen's directorial debut

Actor Kristen Stewart's feature directorial debut, 'The Chronology of Water', premiered at the Cannes Film Festival on Friday night, receiving a standing ovation for 6.5 minutes.

The film, adapted from Lidia Yuknavitch's memoir, tells the story of a woman's journey to turn trauma into art, according to Deadline.

Stewart has been working on this project for eight years, and it is clear that it is a passion project for her.

She co-wrote the screenplay with Andy Mingo, and the film stars Imogen Poots, Jim Belushi, and Thora Birch.

Stewart described the film as "about iteration". "Getting up and trying again. Repossessing your body, your desires, your ambitions and your dreams," Stewart said, according to Deadline.

Stewart also shared that the film is "about birth, death and rebirth, and we sort of followed that cycle. I think you can feel it in the result. At the time, it hurt a lot. The biggest wound of my 'creative' life so far. And by far my favourite scar."

Stewart is no stranger to Cannes, having starred in several films that premiered at the festival.

Her directorial debut has generated significant buzz, and fans mobbed her after the screening, making it difficult for her to leave the venue, as per Deadline.

'The Chronology of Water' is produced by Charles Gillibert, Yulia Zayceva, Max Pavlov, Svetlana Punte, Michael Pruss, Rebecca Feuer, Maggie McLean, Dylan Meyer, and Stewart.

As per Deadline, WME Independent is handling North American sales, while Les Films du Losange has international sales and French distribution. —ANI

Sister's love

Actress Janhvi Kapoor misses little sister Khushi Kapoor, who is off on a vacation.

Khushi took to her Instagram account and dropped some sizzling sneak peeks of her latest holiday. Reacting to the post, Janhvi wrote "I miss you'll" in the comment section. The diva dropped a gorgeous pic posing in a two-piece on the beachside. In another capture, Khushi is all smiles as she walks by the beach in a breezy green dress, paired with a matching sweater. The post further included a few more stills of the 'Loveyapa' actress flaunting her picture-perfect physique in beach wear.

One image in particular caught our attention as Khushi was seen facing the camera with Orry. She also showed off her beautiful pink nail art in one of the photos. If the last pic in the post is any hint, Khushi seems to be vacationing in one of the European countries, however, she has not disclosed the location of her holiday. Khushi and Janhvi are often seen supporting one another unconditionally. During the release of Khushi's "Nadaaniyan", alongside Ibrahim Ali Khan, Janhvi turned into her biggest cheerleader. Back in March this year, Janhvi said that Khushi looked like a 'princess' in the film's song "Tirkit Dhoom". Taking to Instagram stories, Janhvi dropped a glimpse of the song, along with the caption, "Khushi Kapoor is looking like a princess and dancing like a dream." —IANS